

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT A 03551 281319Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 L-03 TRSE-00 OPIC-03
AID-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /044 W
-----125418 282012Z /75
R 252105Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9418

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECRE, ELTN, EFIN, HA
SUBJ: SANGAMO-BARTER'S PROBLEMS

REF: PORT AU PRINCE 3377

1. TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF SANGAMO-BARTER CALLED AT EMBASSY AUGUST 23 TO DISCUSS THEIR PROBLEMS WITH THE GOH. AS REPORTED REFTTEL, SANGAMO-BARTER STOPPED WORKING ON A ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECT IN SOUTHWEST HAITI ON AUGUST 1, CLAIMED THAT THE GOH HAS VIOLATED MAJOR CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS, AND DEMANDED A RENEGOTIATION OF ITS CONTRACT. THE GOH AND THE IDB WHICH IS FINANCING THE PROJECT AGREED TO 13 OF MR. BARTER'S 14 DEMANDS BUT BALKED AT THE DEMAND THAT IT FIRE A SUPERVISORY ENGINEER EMPLOYED BY FENCO THE CANADIAN CONSULTING ENGINEERING FIRM. THE BARTER EMPLOYEES SEEM TO THINK THAT THE MATTER WILL BE SETTLED SOON, THAT THE ENGINEER WILL BE FIRED, AND THAT WORK WILL RESUME. THEY EVIDENTLY ARE UNAWARE THAT BARTER'S NEGOTIATING TACTICS HAVE OFFENDED SOME OF THE MOST POWERFUL PEOPLE IN HAITI. THEY SAID THAT THE NEW CONTRACT WILL BE WORTH A TOTAL OF 21 MILLION DOLLARS BUT THE FOUR MILLION DOLLAR INCREASE IS NOT ADEQUATE TO INCLUDE PAVING THE ROAD. THEY SAID THAT MR. BARTER FLEW TO WASHINGTON SEVERAL DAYS AGO, CONTINUED NEGOTIATIONS WITH IDB OFFICIALS, HAS KEPT HIS WORK CREWS IN

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HAITI AT A COST OF FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS PER DAY, AND PLANS TO RETURN TO HAITI IN A FEW DAYS EXPECTING TO CONCLUDE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE GOH.
MEADE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY, FINANCE, CONTRACTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PORTA03551
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780351-0663
Format: TEL
From: PORT AU PRINCE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780823/aaaaatac.tel
Line Count: 59
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: eb55755b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 PORT AU PRINCE 3377
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1620274
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SANGAMO-BARTER'S PROBLEMS
TAGS: ECRE, ELTN, EFIN, HA, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/eb55755b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014